



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 22.37 Thursday, September 15, 2016 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

Martha Toth retires from school board after 25 yrs. of service

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education will be looking for a volunteer to serve out the final weeks of board vice president Martha Toth's term.

After 25 years on the school board, Toth did not run for reelection in the Nov. 8 election and has decided to leave before her term is up in order to move to the Seattle area.

Toth said she and her sister, both widows, bought a condo together a year ago and Toth is getting her house in order in Haggerty subdivision so she can move very soon.

At Monday's meeting, expected to be Toth's last, school board president Brent Mikulski said Toth had not yet officially resigned, but as soon as he gets the resignation letter he will make available applications for filling her seat until Dec. 16.

He thanked Toth for 25 years of dedicated service to the Van Buren Public Schools.

In an unscripted, from-the-heart statement at the end of the meeting, Toth said, "These schools have been a huge part of my life."

She recalled when her two daughters were small and entering school and how she volunteered in the classrooms and then lobbied the board to start the gifted and talented program and volunteered in that classroom.

In getting ready to move, she said she came across the copy of a letter she wrote to the *Belleville View* in 1998 during the times when there was a lot of "yelling and rancor" at the board meetings which lasted until 1 or 2 in the morning.

"It was my privilege, my honor, my joy to be part of the school district," Toth said.

At the beginning of the meeting, former board vice president Keith Johnston got up during the public comment part of the meeting to praise Toth's work.

"Thank you for your service to the district. You were always prepared. Always did your homework," he said, wishing her the best in her retirement.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the board:

- Approved the appointment of Trustee Sherry Frazier as the board's official delegate to the Nov. 10 Michigan Association of School Boards 2016 Delegate Assembly, prior to the MASB Fall Conference in Detroit. Delegates will decide MASB's positions on a wide variety of issues affecting education. "I'll proudly represent the Van Buren Public Schools," Frazier said;

- Approved the resignations of 11 teachers: Chantay Crowley of Edgemont, 3 years, as of Aug. 1, relocating out of state; Eric Johnson of BHS, 1 year, as of Aug. 11, accepted other employment; Bonnie Lopez of McBride, 9 months, as of Aug. 23, accepted other employment; Michael Kedroske of McBride, 2 years, Aug. 11, resignation; Kristen Nedroscik of Edgemont, 6 years, Aug. 16, accepted other employment; Keith Kelsey of Owen, 1 year, Aug. 19, accepted other employment; Asha Williams of Edgemont, 4 years, Sept. 9, accepted other employment; Alyssa Gipson of BHS, 2 years, Aug. 26, accepted other employment; Lori Bartold of Owen, 2 years, accepted other employment; Tanya White of Tyler, 1 year, Sept. 6, resignation; and Lindsay Pawlowski of BHS, 11 years, Sept. 6, accepted other employment;

- Approved hiring teachers as of Aug. 30: Kayla Hale, BHS; Jennifer Kitchen, Tyler; Jaime Elgas, Savage; Morgan Nagy, Tyler; Samantha Kole, Edgemont; Yolanda Curtis, Haggerty; Cassidy Taylor, Tyler; Walter Boykin, Owen; Mark Frasen, BHS; and Elizabeth Wathen, Owen. Also, as of Sept. 6, Julie Komaromi, Haggerty, was hired;

- Approved the resignations of non-instructional staff: Kristina Malave, Buildings and Grounds, 2 years, Aug. 19; Bryanna Brandon, Transportation, 5 months, Aug. 18; Angelina Brown, BHS, 2 years, Aug. 25; and Donna Wise, Food Service, 16 years, Sept. 6. Also

(continued on page 7)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

A going-away party was held for Martha Toth before Monday's meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education. Toth, the board's vice president, announced she would not fill out the final months of her term because very soon she was moving to the Seattle area. She has been on the board for 25 years. Present to eat cake and give Toth their good wishes were, from left, former School Supt. James Richendollar, Toth, former board vice-president Keith Johnston, former School Supt. Larry Tabor, and former board president David Peer.

School Board candidate forum set for Sept. 22 at Belleville High School

The eight candidates running for four seats on the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education have been invited to participate in a candidates' forum at 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 22, at Belleville High School, 501 W. Columbia Ave.

The forum is being sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County and Belleville members of the league will take part as volunteers at the event.

The format for the event is as follows: Candidates will be allowed a one-minute opening statement, a one-minute response to questions, and a one-minute summation. The forum will be filmed and will be available on the website of the League of Women Voters (www.LWVnorthwestwayne.org) shortly after the forum.

A moderator from the League will read the questions, which can be written and submitted by the audience.

The League of Women Voters is a

non-partisan, political organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. The League does not endorse or oppose candidates or parties, but it does work to gather and distribute information to the public on candidates and their views.

The League has offered the candidates an opportunity to participate in its print and on-line voter guides by submitting their views to share with the public free of charge. The Voter Guide is available at www.VOTE411.org.

Candidates running for the four-year terms on the school board in the Nov. 8 election are:

- Victor De Libera, 44723 Greenbriar, Van Buren Township;
- Susan K. Featheringill, 50385 S. I-94 Service Drive, Van Buren Township;
- Darlene Loyer Gerick, 47675 Martz Road, Van Buren Township;

(continued on page 16)

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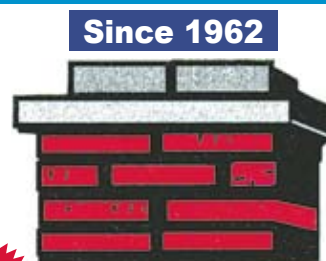
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

City Council sets 6 p.m. session Oct. 3 to hear options for street project

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A special 6 p.m. work/study session will be held before the regular 7:30 p.m. city council meeting on Monday, Oct. 3, to hear financial options for a citywide street/road upgrade project.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said this will be an informational meeting where the council and public will learn the details of bonding or special assessment (or both) to finance a wholesale upgrade of city streets, many of which are in dire need of repair.

The council will discuss the various options during that meeting, but Mayor Conley said a formal meeting will be set up with the public in the future to present the information and to get public opinion.

The work/study session was set during the council's meeting on Sept. 6. Also during the Sept. 6 meeting, the council:

- Accepted the only bid received for installing police equipment on the city's new police car, now waiting at Atchinson Ford. Bids were requested from five local companies, but Priority One Emergency, 5755 Belleville Road in Canton, was the only one to submit a sealed bid. The bid was opened at the meeting and it was \$11,456. The estimated time frame for installation is one and a half weeks;

- Approved use of the Fourth Street Square by Egan's Pub for the Witches Ball on Friday, Oct. 21 from 7 p.m. until midnight. Jen Winters said they are hoping for 160 witches; there were 120 last year. They plan to put up the big tent on Thursday and take it down Sunday. Other Booville events may use the tent. Winters said only women will be admitted until 10 p.m., "no matter who you identify with." Councilwoman Kim Tindall voted against the event because she is against serving alcohol on city property;

- Approved use of the Fourth Street Square by Egan's Pub for a St. Patrick's Day party on March 17, 2017 from noon until midnight, with Councilwoman Tindall voting no. The big tent will go up on Thursday and come down Saturday;

- Approved accounts payable for \$276,461.78 with the following purchases in excess of \$500: to MIOSHA \$1,250 for inspection from the general fund / fire department; and to Backyard Bldgs., \$785 for a storage shed from the general fund / fire department;

- Heard Jeff Vernon of the Sugar Plum Candy Shop say his blade signs were pulled down by the city because the ordinance said they're prohibited, but then he went to the Music Lakeside event and saw that it had blade signs. He said he believes it's because the chairman of the planning commission is on the board of the arts council. He held up

an *Independent* with a picture of the concert with blade flags. Vernon presented a petition with 53 signatures asking for the blade signs to be allowed for businesses. Velon Willis said she just opened her AAA insurance office in Belleville Square shopping center and isn't listed on the main sign yet, so she put up blade sign to show people where she was and it, too, was pulled down by the city;

- Heard Councilman Tom Fielder say the city has uneven enforcement of the signage ordinance because Building Official / Ordinance Officer Rick Rutherford is not here after 4 p.m. "Our enforcement does its job," Councilman Fielder said, adding Willis should meet with Rutherford to find a way for a temporary sign. Rutherford said he had already passed her a note on that;

- Heard Councilwoman Tindall say that she was the one who reported the Candy Shop's blade sign. She said Music Lakeside does things on special events grounds, like the Strawberry Festival does. The rules aren't the same. Tindall clarified that she is a member of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts and a former member of its board. She said the blade sign goes up when the music starts and comes down when it stops. She said comparing that to business signs is apples and oranges. Vernon said, "The city chooses to be a party town rather than a revenue town. Rules aren't rules ... That's what I feel you're saying";

- Heard Planning Commission chairman Steve Jones explain that the commission believes sign clutter is almost a blight issue when you have too many signs allowed in a downtown. He said there has been much conversation on sign issues at the commission at three different times. Some businesses had two and three A-frame signs. It's how to allow it, but mediate the clutter and allow businesses to advertise their business. He said, "Why that is different from special events, the council touched on that. They are two different animals ... part of the event themselves." Fielder said the proposed new permit for special events implies the city manager will decide whether an event meets the spirit of the sign ordinance. Phil Miller read a copy of the sign ordinance furnished to him and asked if the arts council got a permit from Rutherford for the sign and the answer was no. "We weren't asked," Jones said. "You wrote the sign ordinance," someone in the audience reminded Jones; and

- Fire Chief Brian Loranger announced that the fire department has received a grant for 14 air packs, got approval for a grant for fire hose, and will hear about a grant for turnout gear – a good year for grants. He said the selling of the old air packs will cover the 10% required by the air pack grant.



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

Chairman of Friday's Soiree to raise funds for Music Lakeside's summer concerts was Kenneth Voigt, at left. Mike Dacko, center, arranged the flowers in huge arrangements on the tables. At right is Belleville City Councilman Tom Smith, who also worked to make the benefit party a success. Missing from the picture is florist Collette McClinton of Garden Fantasy on Main.

Music Lakeside Soiree



Charlotte and Cornell Anton talk with Belleville City Councilwoman Kim Tindall, right, at the beginning of Friday's Soiree to raise funds for the summer concerts on the lake.

Mary Buckner of Sweet Cream Bakery, soon to open at 106 South Street in the city of Belleville, cooked up special desserts to top off meals at Friday's Music Lakeside Soiree at the Belleville Yacht Club.



Emily Meier and Mike Maynard of Angel Food Catering presided over the buffet table during Friday's Music Lakeside Soiree at the Belleville Yacht Club.



The Planet D'Nonet band performs behind an array of auction items at the benefit party.



OPINIONS

Editorial

Sumpter Police re-ups on body camera program

It wasn't always the case over the past 21 years or so the *Independent* has been covering Sumpter Township, but the police department now is terrific.

For instance, three years ago the department entered into a bodycam program – and officers reportedly have embraced the technology that is used in court to show what really happened no matter what anyone says. The *Independent* has watched the body cam footage play out in court and it's irrefutable.

On Tuesday, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved Police Chief Eric Luke's proposal to get new, updated body cams, since the warranties on the old cameras ran out two years ago and there have been some minor problems.

The five-year proposal, paying yearly over the five years, totals about \$66,000. That covers new equipment, warranties, and data storage in a cloud (evidence.com) for 90 days.

"It's just a drop in the bucket for saving liability," Chief Luke said of the cost and the board agreed.

He reminded the board that Sumpter Township is the only police department in the area that has body cameras, although Huron Township and Romulus are working on getting them. We know Van Buren Township is studying them and Belleville is looking for a grant.

Congratulations to Sumpter PD for still being ahead of the pack.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Maxine Heifner, one of the founders of the *Belleville-Area Independent*, recently fell and broke her hip and shoulder. She now is recovering from surgery at: Heartland Care Center, 4701 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 in room 107.

I talked to her on Sunday and she said she was tugging on something and it let loose. That's how she fell. She says she's not doing too well, so maybe some cards would help.

Library Director Mary Jo Suchy and Jackie Berg each won a six-day, six-night Zulu Nayala South African photo safari for two at Friday's Music Lakeside Soiree. They were each bidding to defeat the other and at the end Mary Jo was ahead, but they decided to give each a safari at a cost of \$4,600 each.

At last week's city council meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria announced that the Belleville High School Band has 301 members this year. It's the largest in the state for one school.

Learned at the Belleville Planning Commission meeting, the Belleville Yacht Club, a private men's club, now has 200 members. It originally was called the BYC because someone else owned the rights to the yacht club name. Now they've got it and members agree the BYC letters also stand for "bring your cash." Also learned at the planning commission meeting.

I received the following email late Wednesday afternoon: "So VBT doesn't like being called Belleville? Wow. Talk



about an inferiority complex from an unincorporated area of Wayne County. They remind me of those in jacked-up pickups with 38" tall tires and not getting dirty. Classic overcompensation.

"I can assure you that the city of Belleville just LOVES it when the television stations report bad news in VBT as Belleville. I swear VBT would love to change the name of Belleville Road to VBT Road if they could. They already did it with little league from BALL to VBALL. In fact, I wish the schools changed their name from Van Buren Public Schools to Belleville Area Public Schools, 'cause last time I checked, kids from Sumpter go to VBPS.

"Oh, and another thing, if they'd bother to look at the USPS website this is what it says:

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"They need to get a life and worry about going broke in two years versus the name of an area."

I received a telephone call Thursday on the same subject. The reader said Van Buren Township should work real hard to get a new zip code for itself if it wants to

be called Van Buren Township. Right now, 48111 is Belleville and if you're in 48111 you are considered Belleville.

That lady also said she had been hoping for a nice little grocery store with fresh fruit and vegetables and good cuts of meat for the corner of Third and Main in Belleville. She really gets irritated at having to drive over the bridge to get her bananas.

I must note that when I deliver *Independents* to the 7-Eleven on Rawsonville Road, I see they sell bananas at the register. If a 7-Eleven goes in at Third and Main, as rumored, at least she'll be able to get bananas in the city.

I've learned that Van Buren Township DDA has purchased a 1,000-pound pumpkin from Alan Avery of Hull Road for its October display at the corner of Belleville and Quirk roads. Alan said he'll deliver it the first week of October.

He raised another huge pumpkin that he is selling in today's classified ads.

There are those who are concerned about the driverless cars that they want to test on Wiard Road and Michigan Avenue in Washtenaw County, not far from us. Maybe we should be on the lookout for rogue cars.



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"Great things are done by a series of small things brought together."

-- Vincent Van Gogh



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Letters

In the name of Religion
In memory of 911

Life's Lesson: We must constantly stand against wrong no matter what religion is used to justify it.

By Pat Richards

Must be another planet, must be a better place
What's happening in our homeland is a terrible disgrace
Get 'em unexpected is the name of the game
In the name of religion, now isn't this a shame

They hate our country, this is so sad
For years you heard about the war we had
Woke up our people like a terrible dream
God help us all when we hear them scream

"God bless America" is what our people say
Wasn't that a frightening and horrible day
Blow them all up, just play to win
Never mind the rules, those we can bend

Must be another planet, must be a better place
What is happening in our homeland is a terrible disgrace
Get 'em unexpected is the name of the game
In the name of religion, now this is a SHAME

Driscoll, Dasher moving vet practices

To the Editor,
Dr. Scott Driscoll and Dr. Keri Dasher would like to announce that we are both leaving the practice at Belleville Animal Hospital. This was a very difficult decision for us after almost 32 years of combined practice time at this hospital. We feel this is the right decision for us because of the pending national corporate sale of the practice. We don't feel we can continue to provide high-quality, affordable care in that type of setting.

We'd also like to announce that we will be opening our own practice in Belleville. The Animal Medical Center of Van Buren. We will be located at 491 Sumpter in Belleville, the old Perfect Image salon. See the new hospital's Facebook page for all the details and updates on the progress of the facility.

We are both sad to leave a great group of people at Belleville Animal Hospital, but

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really excited about this new opportunity. Spread the word and we hope to see all of you in the near future.

The new hospital's phone number is 734-699-6510. Our email addresses are drdriscoll@amcvanburen.com and drdasher@amcvanburen.com. Call or email us any time for more information. We look forward to continue to serve this community.

Scott Driscoll, DVM
Keri Dasher, DVM

FMAR needs your help: Three upcoming events

To the Editor:

FMAR is Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue. It is the shelter where we got Hershey and Ziva.

They really need some help to raise more money for the expansion of their facility. These are awesome people who run a first-class operation saving the lives of orphaned cats and dogs.

See below for the three events:

- Thursday, Sept. 15 – Spaghetti Dinner, 6-8 p.m., at the Ypsilanti Eagles, 2935 Holmes Rd., Ypsilanti. \$10 for adults and kids 13+; kids 12 and under, \$6; kids 2 and under, free.

- Wednesday, Oct. 5 – Beer Tasting Fund Raiser from 5 to 10 p.m. at Original Gravity Brewing Co., 440 County St., Milan 48160. Information: (734) 417-5117.

- Saturday, Oct. 15 – Costumed Monster Mutt Walk from 1 to 3 p.m. on Fourth Street next to the museum. Registration is \$10 plus a can of dog food. Information (734) 558-5368 after 3:30 p.m.

Mary Jane Dawson
Belleville

My dog was stolen in Sumpter Township

To the Editor:

My dog was being kept with my in-laws at their home in Sumpter Township on Clay road at Martinsville. House was broken into by kitchen window and only dog was taken. Two other dogs in home were unharmed. All cash and valuables left, nothing else touched. Police arrived within four minutes of alarm being set off.

We received a tip that she was seen in a grey Dodge Challenger or Charger on Rawsonville Road by Tubby's headed north towards I-94. This was roughly an hour after home break in.

Any help locating her would be appreciated. She is the sweetest dog in the world. Cash reward for information leading to her safe return.

Chris Gray
(734) 624-9245



Birthdays

Sept. 13 – Phillip Sanders
Sept. 16 – Thomas Millard
Sept. 17 -- Geof Bush, Shane Howard
Sept. 21 – Reg Ion, Carla Gibson
Sept. 23 – Megan Holmes
Sept. 22 – Patricia Marshall
Sept. 25 – Pam Melton

Do you have a birthday in September? Does any one you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.



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Obituaries



Mark Duane Minthorn, Sr.

MARK DUANE MINTHORN, SR.
 May 31, 1951 - September 11, 2016
 Mark Duane Minthorn, Sr. is the Loving father of Mark Minthorn, Jr. of Belleville and Megan Minthorn of Huber Heights, OH; Cherished brother of Lori Minthorn of Belleville; Dear Grandpa of Macie Minthorn. Mark is also survived by many other loving family and friends. He was preceded in death by his son, Michael Minthorn, in infancy in 1978; and mother, Gertrude Jane Minthorn on March 4, 2007. He was born to Charles and Gertrude Minthorn in Wyandotte, MI on May 31, 1951. Mark was a lifelong Belleville resident. Mark graduated from Belleville High School in 1969. He was a true Outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle and playing baseball. Mark loved to watch sports, as well as playing them; U of M football and Hockey were his favorites. He also loved bowling, playing solitaire and watching John Wayne films. Mark was a former member of the Belleville Moose Lodge #934. Visitation will be 1-8 PM Thursday, September 15, 2016 with a funeral service 11:00 am, Friday September 16, 2016 at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI, with Reverend Bob White of Grace Baptist church officiating. Interment will follow at Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. Memorial contributions can be made to Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue (FMAR) or The ALS Association.

THOMAS ROY ROBINSON, JR.
 (January 30, 1950 - August 28, 2016)
 Thomas R. Robinson, age 66, of Belleville, August 28, 2016. Beloved husband of Linda Robinson. Loving father of Nick and Mike Robinson. Dearest brother of Ellen (the late Paul) Bubnick and Daniel (Tamara) Robinson. He is preceded in death by his parents Thomas and Mary Robinson, Sr. Funeral service is Saturday, 2:30 p.m. at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Visitation is Saturday, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Interment in Michigan Memorial Park. His cremation will take place at "The Witness Crematory" located inside of Michigan Memorial Funeral Home.
www.mimemorial.com

ROBERT T. WINTERS
 Age 73 of Belleville, died August 24, 2016. Served in U.S. Army. Survived by wife Linda; six children; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; one niece and two nephews. Celebration of Life held Sept. 10 at Romulus VFW Hall. Janowiak Funeral Home.

CAROLE ROLAND TORTORA
 September 10, 1956 - September 11, 2016
 Age 60 of Belleville. Survived by her husband of 20 years Frank and brother, Michael Baron. Cremation rites accorded. Brown Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue.

School Board

(continued from page 1)

approved retirements of Kathy Straight, Food Service, after 21 years, Sept. 6; and Virginia McCoy, Administration, 28 years, Sept. 23;

- Approved employment of paraprofessionals Jene Walker, Edgemont; Carol Scipione, Owen; Julie Eaton, Edgemont; Sparkle Fowler, McBride; and for Accounts Payable at the Administration Building, Nicole Beckham;

- Heard Trustee Frazier point out again there were no invoices from the district's attorneys, Collins & Blaha. She said last month the board had an executive session with them and they were going to go here and there, but there is no invoice. "We need a serious conversation with them," she said. "Having invoices pile up could have an effect on our budget";

- Heard Trustee Frazier comment on the loss of 11 teachers, with eight of them for other employment. She said it would be wise to discuss what other districts have to draw them away. She said it doesn't make sense that a tenured teacher would leave to start at the beginning at another district. She said she has heard some districts are paying for experience. Frazier said for them to leave the week before school starts is strange; they could have resigned a lot earlier. She said now Van Buren had to hurry around to hire people. She said the district needs to build consistency. "We want people to stay in place";

- Heard Human Resources Director Abdul Madyun say that when he gets resignations, he asks for a reason. "Some are complimentary and some are not," he said, noting some were blatantly honest. He said he was at a meeting at Wayne RESA and found everyone was expressing the same problem: "Someone offers more money and they jump ship." Also, he said, if you put in the resignation early, you lose insurance for the summer. That's why they wait until the end of summer. He said he worked on the contract and "this problem should be alleviated";

- Heard Trustee Alison Bennett say the board is getting in the bad habit of not separating a motion from discussion. She said comments roll into motions instead of having the motions first and then discussion in an orderly way;

- Heard former Savage Elementary School Music Teacher Jason Cooper comment on why teachers don't get up to talk at school board meetings. He said the feeling of fear was prevalent and he's not sure the school board understand it exists. He said his very first day at work at VBPS, he got advice from a teacher: "Leave." He said it has been 6 or 7 months since he left and he didn't get a chance to tell the reason he left. He said if you ask teachers why they are leaving they could tell you a lie because they are not comfortable telling the truth. He said he knew the five teachers at Savage and he supports them. He said Pam Bradley was his mentor. He said the new MSTEP numbers look interesting, but

(continued on page 8)

School Board

(continued from page 7)

it's not the whole story and he continues to support the five because they are awesome teachers. "I love my new students, but I miss this district so much," he said. He urged the board to find out the real reasons these teachers are going by talking to them;

- Heard Financial Director Shareen Barker give a report on three years of legal fees that total \$480,929. She gave figures for the last five years, with 2012-13 being some \$77,000 and 2015-16 being \$283,123. There were so many figures in her oral report that the board asked her to email the figures to them to study;

- Heard Madyun say they have delayed naming the new assistant principal at the high school. There were 180 applicants, which was whittled down to 15. Five of the applicants are internal;

- Heard School Supt. Pete Kudlak report that building relationships with employees will help with some of the grievances and by handling negotiations themselves they will reduce lawyers' fees. Also, he is gathering information on a suggestion to put advertisements on the athletic fields. Also, he discussed the 18-mill, 8-year non-homestead millage on the Nov. 8 ballot, along with the Wayne RESA 2 mills for 6 years that would bring \$1.8 million to Van Buren Public Schools if the whole county approved it. He said he would like to have a public forum to discuss the proposals. Also, he said the budget is based on losing 300 more students this fall and as of the end of the first week there are only 220 fewer students, which is a good sign; and

- Heard Mikulski report \$22,000 worth of school supplies will be split between the VBPS and Plymouth Canton following the Salvation Army drive. Frazier said the Salvation Army will donate 2,000 calculators to the VBPS. She said the standardized tests call for students to use calculators and this is a way to have the students become familiar with them.

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Yankee Air Museum extends flying season for historic aircraft

Yankee Air Museum has decided to extend the flying season of its historic aircraft into October.

"We are very thankful for everyone who flew on our historic World War II aircraft during the summer flying season," said Ray Hunter, B-17 Pilot and chairman of the board of Yankee Air Museum. "Our purpose is reenergized, so let's keep it going, let's keep these majestic 'flying history books' in the air, where they belong."

Hunter said the Museum's Boeing B-17, North American B-25 and Douglas C-47 each had another successful season of barnstorming and air show appearances. Now, before the deep winter maintenance cycle begins, the Museum is having a homecoming celebration by extending its flying season into October and flying riders on Saturdays.

"We are giving people in our community special opportunities to take a Saturday morning or afternoon flight," said Kevin Walsh, Executive Director of Yankee Air Museum. "We rarely fly from our home base on Saturdays, so it's perfect. We're looking forward to the early signs of awesome autumn colors and of course we expect the weather to cooperate."

Walsh said that a living history flight experience on board the B-17 Yankee Lady costs \$450 and on the B-25 Yankee Warrior it is \$400. The cost of an air tour on the C-47 is \$195 and on the Waco biplane it is \$325 for two passengers or \$225 for one passenger. Yankee Air Museum members receive significant discounts when purchasing rides.

"Weather permitting, we intend to fly passengers on Saturday Oct. 8, with the B-17 at 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m. and the B-25 bomber at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.," said Walsh. "The B-17 will also fly on Oct. 15, at 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m."

Walsh said information is available at www.yankeeairmuseum.org by clicking

on "Book a Flight." He added that C-47 and Waco flight schedules are based on customer demand. People can reserve a ride on the C-47 and the Waco by writing to: C-47rides@yankeeairmuseum.org or biplanerides@yankeeairmuseum.org and communicating directly with the scheduler.

BHS home games

Here are upcoming Belleville High School home athletic events:

- Thursday, Sept. 15 - Boys Tennis, 4 p.m.; Freshman Volleyball, 5:30 p.m.; JV Volleyball, 5:30 p.m.; JV Football, 6:30 p.m.; Varsity Volleyball, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 17 - Girls Swim & Dive, "Tiger Invite," 10 a.m.
- Monday, Sept. 19 - Girls Golf at Harbour Club Golf Course, 3 p.m.; Boys Tennis, 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 21 - Boys Varsity Soccer 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 22 - Boys JV Soccer, 4 p.m.; Boys Varsity Soccer, 5:30 p.m.
- Friday, Sept. 23 - Varsity Football, 7 p.m.



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A huge yard sale with the proceeds going to the Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue in Sumpter Township is taking place Sept. 16-17, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day at 42743 Riggs Road. Items include hand and power tools, household items, kids' stuff, and more.

The 22nd-Annual Don Rochon Memorial Car Show & Swap Meet is this Sunday, Sept. 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sumpter Township Fairgrounds on Sumpter Road. Car show entry is \$15 and you have until 12:30 p.m. to bring your ride up and get it registered. Trophies will be awarded at 2:30 p.m. There will also be door prizes, 50/50 raffle, music, games, and food. Swap meet exhibitors can get a 10x10 space for \$20. The USA Demolition Derby and Enduro Demos will get under way at 4 p.m. Admission to the track area is \$12 for adults, \$4 for children ages 3-12.

Van Buren Public Safety Family Fun Day is this Saturday, Sept. 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. adjoining the Walgreen's store on Belleville Road. The township's fire safety trailer will be on-site, including a fleet of police and fire vehicles, marine and motorcycle units, and more. The event is free.

A dine to donate event with 15% of your total bill going to Secure VBT Public Safety will take place next Monday, Sept. 19 and on Sunday, Sept. 25, from noon to 7 p.m.

each day at Dos Pesos Mexican Restaurant on Belleville Road. Flyers will be available at the restaurant. Call (734) 697-5777.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue is holding their annual Spay-ghetti & No Balls Dinner Fundraiser this evening, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Eagles Hall at 2935 Holmes Road. The cost is \$10 adults, \$6 for children 12 and under, with 2 and under free. A bake sale and raffle will also be available. FMAR will also be holding its monthly pet adoption clinic this Saturday, Sept. 17, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Westland Petco Pet Store located on Warren Road across from the mall. Call (734) 461-9458.

St. Joseph Catholic Church in Ypsilanti is having its Harvest Festival this Sunday, Sept. 18, from noon to 6 p.m. on the church grounds at 9425 Whittaker Road. Their famous chicken dinners will be served and other activities include a car show, silent auction, \$5,000 raffle, kids' games, crafters and a bake sale.

The Belleville Tigers football team (1-2) fell to Dearborn Fordson, 34-25 on Sept. 9. Belleville travels to Redford Union tomorrow evening at 7 p.m. Go Tigers!

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych, (734) 699-9020, with your suggestion. There is no charge to be in this column.

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Cring & Clazzy coming to United Methodist Church on Sept. 25

Cring & Clazzy will present free performances at 9 and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 25, at First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street, Belleville.

A recent reviewer called them "the biggest two-piece band in America."

They will be sharing an entertaining and inspirational program called "567: Go tell it from the Mount," a modern-day look at the Sermon on the Mount using music, stories, and song.

They will also be presenting excerpts of Cring's new book, "Within," which has recently been released and reportedly is becoming one of his best-sellers.

The duo has been on the road for 20 years. In the past three years, they have reached 362 cities in 42 states, with 518 performances.

"567" is a program that unites the generations, closes the political gaps and gets us to laugh long enough that we stop fussing with each other," said Clazzy, who was the first female conductor of an orchestra in the state of Tennessee. She performs on an instrument called the WX5 Wind Machine, a horn making the sounds of 250 different instruments.

The partners will be appearing at the church for one day only and the program will have the audience in and out in less than an hour. For more information, contact

the church at 697-9288

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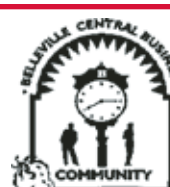
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MONSTER MUTT WALK APPLICATION

Saturday, October 15, 2016

Name: _____ E-mail: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

1st Dog's Name: _____ Breed: _____
2nd Dog's Name: _____ Breed: _____
3rd Dog's Name: _____ Breed: _____

During the month of October the City of Belleville becomes "Booville". The Belleville Central Business Community is partnering with Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue (FMAR) to host a **costumed Monster Mutt Walk** from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 15, 2016. The Walk will begin and end on 4th Street by the Belleville Area Museum.

We would like to advance register as many as possible; however, we will take registrations the day of the event. Each dog will receive a goody bag and a gift. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place award metals will be given in a three categories: Scariest, Cutest and Best Mutt & Family (family must dress also). In fact, it would be fun for everyone to wear a costume.

The registration fee is \$10/dog plus a can of dog food. The application has enough space to register three dogs. **Please return this application** by mail with your check to my attention at: Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, 248 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111 or drop it off at the Chamber office. You may bring the dog food with you to the event.

Monster Mutt Walk Rules

- (1) All dogs must be leashed and current on vaccinations;
- (2) No aggressive dogs
- (3) Owners must clean-up after their dogs (bags will be provided).
- (4) No dogs can be left unattended. Owners must keep their dogs in sight & under control at all times.
- (5) Owners are responsible for their dog's actions.

For any questions or concerns, I prefer you contact me via my email: jfayemillard@att.net however, you may also call me at (734) 558-5368 after 3:30 p.m.

Janet Millard, Event Coordinator
Belleville Central Business Community

MDOT hosting open house on proposed changes at US-12/Wiard

An open house-style meeting will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21, to gather public input about the proposed changes to US-12 (Michigan Avenue) between Dorset Avenue and Ecorse Road, and on Wiard Road between Tyler Road and US-12 in Washtenaw and Wayne counties.

The meeting is being put on by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) staff, Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) staff, and consultants for residents and interested stakeholders.

It will be held at New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church, 2345 Tyler Road, Ypsilanti Township.

MDOT and the WCRC are proposing to shift traffic on US-12 and Wiard Road from a one-way boulevard to a two-way configuration. The change would allow the proposed American Center for Mobility (ACM) to use the freed-up right-of-way for a highway loop for testing connected and automated vehicles.

On US-12, all traffic would shift to the eastbound lanes that would carry two-way traffic near the former Willow Run Assembly Plant. On Wiard Road, all traffic would shift to the southbound lanes

between Tyler Road and US-12.

Accommodations can be made for the meeting for persons with disabilities and limited English-speaking ability. Large print materials, auxiliary aids or the

services of interpreters, signers, or readers are available upon request. Call (517) 373-9534 to request accommodations before the meeting date

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Revocable Living Trust

The Revocable Living Trust is also known as the Revocable Grantor Trust.

“Grantor” or “settlor” means the person who creates and funds the trust. Funding the trust means transferring the title of assets, such as a house or car, to the trust. “Trustee” refers to the person in charge of managing the trust according to its provisions.

The key feature of a revocable grantor trust is that during the settlor’s lifetime, the trust may be changed or revoked. After the settlor passes, the trust becomes irrevocable. Major advantages of a grantor trust include the ease with which the trust may be altered and the ability to avoid probate and its costs. Trusts help to avoid probate if a settlor is unable to manage financial affairs. Instead of a formal public hearing, a trust can allow for a private determination of the settlor’s capacity and provide guidelines for the management of the trust assets.

The major drawbacks of a grantor trust include: expense, complexity, and possible issues with qualification for Medicaid. Generally, a trust is more expensive and complex than a Will. While a simple Will can be six or seven pages, a simple trust can be 20-30 pages. Also, if it becomes necessary for a loved one to require extended medical services, Medicaid qualification may be complicated if the primary residence has been placed into a grantor trust. Another disadvantage is that, upon the grantor’s death, the trust becomes irrevocable and a new taxable entity, which means more work for the trustee.

The next article in this series will cover the medical and financial powers of attorney and will appear in the September 29, 2016 edition. If you have any questions, please contact Amy at 734-718-8574 or amy@amyeversolelaw.com.

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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Sept. 15** – Help Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue raise funds to expand their no-kill shelter by attending a spaghetti dinner from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Ypsilanti Eagles, 2935 Holmes Rd., Ypsilanti 48198. Adults and kids over 13,

\$10; kids 12 and under, \$6; kids 2 and under eat free. Extra money is needed for the project because of new rules by Sumpter Township.

• **Saturday, Sept. 17** – Van Buren Township Public Safety Family Fun Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Walgreen's grassy field, 10276 Belleville Rd. Free. Family activities include parents receiving a free CD carrying their child's fingerprints, digital photograph, and other identifying information. Also police and fire officers and their equipment, food and refreshments, face painting, Dee-Dee the Clown, HVA Andy the Ambulance, and more.

• **Saturday, Sept. 17** – Belleville High School Alumni Reunion starts at 2 p.m. at the BHS Commons with a social gathering, school tour, and shopping in the school store. Dinner is 5-8 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person and RSVP and payment is due by Aug. 27, with cost going up to \$30 each thereafter. Make all checks payable to: BHS Alumni Reunion and mail with your name, guest, BHS Class of, and class seating preference to your class representative. Include your mailing and email addresses and your phone number.

• **Saturday, Sept. 17** – Willow Country Fair is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston 48164. Gifts and crafts, lunch, baked goods, white elephant, fresh vegetables, and more.

• **Sunday, Sept. 18** – Waco Band performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Monday, Sept. 19** – Western Wayne County Genealogical Society will meet at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. At 5:30 p.m., bring your dinner and enjoy conversations with other members; 6:15 p.m., Q&A; 7 p.m. Wally Schlegal will present the new FamilySearch.org website. Open to the public; guests always welcome. Information at: www.wwcgs.org.

www.wwcgs.org.

• **Tuesday, Sept. 20** – The Belleville Band Boosters welcomes everyone to the 24th-Annual Belleville High School Half-Time Band Review to be held at the BHS Athletic Field. Bands from Lincoln Park, New Boston Huron, Dearborn Crestwood, Monroe, Flat Rock, Lincoln, and Belleville will perform their 2016 half-time shows. Gates open at 5:45 p.m. and performances begin at 6:30. General admission is \$5 with free admission for kids 12 and under.

• **Thursday, Sept. 22** – Those running for school board seats on the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education will take part in a 7 p.m. candidates' forum put on by the League of Women Voters at Belleville High School, 501 W. Columbia Ave.

• **Sunday, Sept. 25** – Sweet Friends of Music perform from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Tuesday, Sept. 27** – It's National Voter Registration Day and the League of Women Voters will be at Wayne County Community College, 9555 Haggerty Road in Van Buren Township from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to register voters. The booth will be in the main building near the cafeteria.

• **Wednesday, Sept. 28** – State Rep. Bill LaVoy invites you to visit with him at the Sumpter Township Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Road, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tell him your concerns about state government. Ask him questions.

• **Saturday, Oct. 1, and Sunday, Oct. 2** – It's the 2016 Huron Applefest in New Boston. Lots of activities, including craft show at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 19109 Craig Street.

Upcoming Meetings

• **Monday, Sept. 19** – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study session, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• **Tuesday, Sept. 20** – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.

• **Wednesday, Sept. 21** – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission meeting, 7 p.m.

• **Tuesday, Sept. 27** – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

• **Wednesday, Sept. 28** – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• **Monday, Oct. 3** – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m., preceded by a 6 p.m. meeting to hear the financial options for the proposed street/ road project.

• **Tuesday, Oct. 4** – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.

• **Monday, Oct. 10** – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.

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5 FAMILY SALE. Antiques and new. Beads, buttons & books. Lots more. Thurs. thru Sat., Sept. 15, 16 & 17, 8:30am-5:30pm. 44600 Robson Rd. 9/15

SEPT. 15, 16 & 17, 9am-4pm. 13132 Ormond. Tools, home accessories, clothing, household items. 9/15

MULTI-FAMILY BARN SALE. 10714 Judd, Willis. Sept. 17 & 18, 8am-4pm. Baby stuff, kids clothes, household supplies & more. 9/15

SATURDAY, SEPT. 17 & Sunday, Sept. 18. 46050 Bemis Rd., Belleville, 9am-4pm. Everything from antique claw bathtub to a travel trailer & lots more. 9/15

KIDS CLOTHES 0-3T & more. Sat., Sept. 17 & Sun, Sept. 18, 9am-4pm. 7757 Marlowe, Belleville. 9/15

46695 WILLIS RD. Sept. 15-19, 9am-6pm. Variety of items including 2 Ford tractors, 2 air compressors & 1988 GMC Vandura. 9/15

MOVING SALE. Saturday, Sept. 17 ONLY, 9am-5pm. Furniture, household items, ladders, wheelbarrow, patio furniture. 13515 Lenmoore Rd., Belleville. 9/15

GARAGE/BARN SALE. Sept. 17 & 18. 11am-6pm. 9657 McKean Rd., Willis. Misc. tools, mower, lawn/leaf vacuum, engine hoist & household items. 9/15

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Phil Miller asks council to close Main Street for Halloween trick or treat

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Should Main Street be closed for the annual trick or treat event downtown where costumed children go door to door to businesses?

It's an annual question and the annual answer by the Belleville City Council is to keep the street open.

At the Sept. 6 meeting of the city council, Phil Miller asked the council to close Main Street for Halloween downtown trick or treat this year.

He said last year he gathered 300 signatures asking that the street be closed for the safety of the children. He said Main Street is closed on Mondays all summer from May to September and the council can't close it for one night for the children.

He said they could have a trunk or treat event in one part of the closed street and a block party on the other end.

"I spend \$500-\$600 for candy and run out before the event is over," Miller said. The new layout would give businesses a break.

He said if the council doesn't close the street, "I'll start stuffing this meeting."

Mayor Conley said this is discussed each year and after discussion they agree to keep it the same.

Police Chief Hal Berriman said this is almost a tradition. They lower the speed limit and, "We've never had an incident where a child has been hurt ... Kids rotate up and down the street pretty fast ... In my opinion, if it's working good, why try to fix it? It's generally gone good ... There's an overflow of costumes and family participation."

Fire Chief Brian Loranger said, "I've always been in favor of closing the street, but if we don't get it right, it will be chaotic."

There was talk of closing Main Street from the bridge to Five Points, but Chief Loranger said from Third to Fifth streets would be better.

Miller said the businesses on Fourth Street could sponsor a block party and kids could have events between the library and museum.

Mayor Conley said the whole month of October has exploded with events.

Planning Commission chairman Steve Jones said he is concerned about the excess traffic with the street closed and getting the kids safely across High Street. "It's challenging to stop traffic," Jones said.

Chief Loranger said when Liberty Street is tied up both ways he can't get his fire truck out of the station.

Councilman Tom Fielder said the way it's been is that the children are going to store fronts, using the sidewalks, and there's never been a problem.

"You have new ideas," Councilman Fielder said to Miller. "This needs to be developed through Booville and eventually come to council for approval."

Miller said he's hearing from the community.

"I've seen DUI arrests during trick or treating – and speeding," Miller said "I had 300 people sign without flinching."

Closing Main Street creates a traffic issue, Fielder said. "We've never had an incident... We've never gone all the way to the library."

"Would you be willing to chair a committee to look into new ideas for Halloween?" asked Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria and Miller said he would.

The businesses outside of the closed "zone" could bring their treats into the zone, Councilwoman Kim Tindall noted.

"Last year, I found you had to go to the Booville committee to participate," said Jeff Vernon of the Sugar Plum Candy Shop on South Street. "A road closure for me does nothing. I don't want to move my goodies down to Fourth Street."

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Court Watching:

Freeman faces jury trial for four different drunk driving charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Samuel Raymon Freeman, 30, waived his preliminary examination on charges of operating under the influence of liquor and driving while license suspended in Van Buren Township on April 4.

34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley bound him over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information Aug. 17. His bond had been set at \$5,000 or 10% but he was in jail on other, similar charges.

Freeman also was arrested July 29, 2015, and April 4 and 17, 2016, as well as May 18, 2016 – all for the same charges. The final pre-trial conference on the consolidated charges was Sept. 9. A jury trial is pending for Dec. 1 before Judge James A. Callahan.

VBT Det. Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge of the cases. Freeman's court-appointed attorney is Wyatt Harris.

Candidate forum

(continued from page 1)

• Keith L. Johnston, 39848 E. Huron River Drive, Van Buren Township (Romulus mailing);

• Brent Mikulski, 48792 Fifth Ave., Canton Township;

• Kelly A. Owen, 42607 Maude Ct., Van Buren Township;

• David Peer, 2511 S. Grove St., Ypsilanti Township; and

• Simone Pinter, 48496 Ellen Court, Van Buren Township.

The seats to be filled are now held by Brent Mikulski, Kelly Owen, Kathy Kovach and Martha Toth.

“There’s a difference between a philosophy and a bumper sticker.”
– Charles M. Schulz

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville Regular City Council Meeting Minutes August 15, 2016

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 P.M., at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Council Member Fielder | Present |
| Council Member Smith | Present |
| Council Member Tindall | Present |
| Mayor Pro Tem Loria | Present |
| Mayor Conley | Present |

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS
None

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Loria, Second by Smith to approve the agenda with the addition of Item D: Planning Commission review of the B-2 Central Business District within Belleville's Zoning Ordinance.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Loria to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of August 1, 2016 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. BACA's Request to Use Victory Park for Citywide Yard Sale

Representing the Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA), Becky Hansen asked to use Victory Park to host the annual City Wide Yard Sale scheduled for September 10-11, 2016. Sale is scheduled for 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Cost is \$15 for one day or \$25 for both days.

Motion by Loria, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 16-090** allowing BACA to use Victory Park and charge rental fees for participants of the City Wide Yard Sale.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Harvest Fest Street Closing and Use of Fourth Street Square

Manager Kollmeyer stated that the Central Business Community (CBC) is requesting a street closing from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 8, 2016 for the annual Harvest Fest. The request includes closing Fourth Street from Main Street to the Belleville Area District Library at Charles Street.

Motion by Tindall, Second by Fielder to approve **Resolution No. 16-091**.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Sign Ordinance Amendments

Planning Commission Chair Steve Jones was present to answer questions regarding amendments to Chapter 66, Articles 2 and 3 related to definitions and standards in Belleville's Sign Ordinance.

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 16-092** to adopt amendments to Belleville's Sign Ordinance, Chapter 66, Article 2 ("Definitions") and Article 3 ("Sign Standards") as presented.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. D. Planning Commission Review: B-2 Central Business District

In an effort to encourage commercial development in the Central Business District, Mayor Conley asked Council Members to consider having the Planning Commission review the current regulations and bring recommendations back to City Council.

Motion by Smith, Second by Loria to approve **Resolution No. 16-093** to request that the Planning Commission/City Planner evaluate the Zoning Ordinance, Article 3.1.7: B-2 Central Business District, and authorize the City Planner to submit a cost proposal for implementing recommended changes related to building height and use standards.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Fielder to approve **Resolution No. 16-094** to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 for a total of \$287,760.40 with corrections.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS None

11. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

None

12. MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Conley inquired about progress on the Huron River Drive construction project. DPW Director Rick Rutherford will contact Wayne County to determine if an "end date" is scheduled.

13. CITIZEN COMMENTS None

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

Open sealed bids for police car (emergency package).

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Loria, Second by Tindall to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Scharf, City Clerk

Approved: September 6, 2016

Published: September 15, 2016



Sumpter Township Public Notice



Advertisement For Bids

The Township of Sumpter is seeking sealed bids for repair of three (3) Parking lot Drains and repair of a Section of Sidewalk on South Side (North Entrance), Location: Fire Station #1, 20550 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Sumpter Townships Clerks Office, Attention: Clarence J. Hoffman Jr. 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, (734) 461-6201. Bid opening will be at 2:00 pm on October 3, 2016.

Publish: September 15 & 22, 2016



Sumpter Township Public Notice



Sumpter Township Notice of Public Hearing Variance

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, for the purpose of receiving statements and views on a proposed Variance request on 81-015-99-0001-706 better known as 18929 Elwell Road. The Variance request is not compliant with the provisions of Section 4.18 (Agricultural Dimensional Standards) of the Sumpter Township Zoning Ordinance.

The Attached Accessory Building must comply with Section 4.18 Agricultural Dimensional Standards of the Sumpter Township Ordinance.

Section 4.18 states:

- Attached garages must meet the minimum setbacks for the principal structure (house).
Minimum Front Setback: 50 feet
Minimum Side Setback: 20 feet
Minimum Rear Setback: 50 feet

The Attached Garage meets required Front and Rear setbacks, it is deficient in meeting the required 20 ft. side yard setback by 6.5 ft.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Publish: September 15, 2016

Posted: September 15, 2016



City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville Payroll/Building Clerk Employment Position



The City of Belleville Clerk/Treasurer's Office is accepting applications/resumes for a full time clerical position. Job title is Payroll/Building Clerk. Successful candidate will have working knowledge of payroll procedures, customer service, and will be expected to have experience with general office work including use of Microsoft office computer products. Applicant must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid Michigan Driver's License. Applications will be accepted until September 23, 2016 at 4:00 P.M. Applications available at City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111 from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday. The City of Belleville is an equal opportunity employer.

Sherri Scharf
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: September 8, 2016
September 15, 2016

Help Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue by writing story

Adopters are invited to share how their adopted pet changed their life for a chance to win a \$100,000 grant award for Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue and a \$1,000 Petco gift card for themselves.

The Petco Foundation, in partnership with Petco, will be granting Holiday Wishes in the form of more than \$750,000 in grant awards to qualified animal welfare organizations. This contest is designed to

help the animal welfare organizations save more lives during the holidays and year round.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue has the opportunity to receive the grand prize of a \$100,000 grant, or a series of finalist awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000. Anyone who has adopted a pet can submit a story to the Petco Foundation's Holiday Wishes campaign, giving the organization they adopted from a chance to win one of several grant awards. A full list of prizes is available at www.petcofoundation.org/holidaywishes.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue is asking any person or family who has adopted a pet from the organization to share their story to give Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue the opportunity to win a Holiday Wishes grant. Petco will also award the person who submits the winning story a \$1,000 Petco gift card, giving them the chance to spoil their adopted pet.

People who adopted a pet through

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue are invited to share a story of how the love of their adopted pet brings more joy to their life each day, and how the love of their pet changes their life in a big or small way and makes it better (limit 500 words). Submissions should include photos and/or video that help tell the story.

The deadline to submit stories for a Holiday Wishes grant is **Oct. 15, 2016, at 11:59 p.m. CST.**

Adopters are encouraged to visit holidaywishes.fluidreview.com for more information and to get started as soon as possible. The winning organizations and their featured pets will be announced in December.

For more information about the Petco Foundation Holiday Wishes campaign visit holidaywishes.fluidreview.com. Join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or by using the campaign hashtag #HolidayWishes.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue (FMAR) is a non-profit no-kill 501(c) 3 rescue for dogs and cats that started in April 2003 with the help of volunteers and supporters. It is located at 51299 Arkona Road in Sumpter Township.

FMAR strives every day to hold true to its mission of protecting animals and residents by promoting a healthy and

safe environment for all. Each day a new challenge arises and they are proud of their team for their creativity, compassion, and perseverance in overcoming those challenges to better the lives of animals in the community. FMAR's motto: We are the place "Where Pets and People Meet".

Widowed Friends to hold 'Day of Reflection' Nov. 12 in Livonia

Widowed Friends will present "Day of Reflection," a bereavement seminar for widowed men and women, on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

Guest speakers include Ron Gries, author of "Through Death to Life." Cost of \$18 per person includes beverages and a box lunch. To register, contact (248) 918-1622 before Nov. 5.

Widowed Friends is a "peer" support group in the Archdiocese of Detroit. For more information about Widowed Friends, visit its website at www.widowedfriends.org.

"Do or do not. There is no try."
— Yoda

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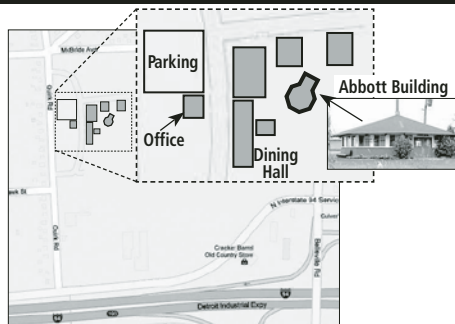


Off-leash playtime with other friendly Pugs and Pug Owners!
Your Pugs will love you for their new social life!

Learn more & RSVP online at:
www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs
www.facebook.com/pugplaygroup

Location:

**Wayne County Fairgrounds
Abbott Building**
10871 Quirk Rd
Belleville, MI 48111
Off I-94 at Belleville Rd exit near I-275



All Pugs & Pug Owners are Welcome!!
One Sunday EVERY Month – 2:00pm

2016 Dates:

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| January 17 | May 15 | September 18 |
| February 21 | June 12 | October 16 |
| March 20 | July 10 | November 20 |
| April 17 | August 21 | December 18 |

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, and Trustee Miller. Late Arrival (7:02 p.m.): Trustee Jahr. Absent/Excused: Trustee McClanahan. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery and an audience of three (3).

Supervisor Combs requested the following amendments: Addition of item #11 under the Consent Agenda: Approval of the attorney recommendation for the settlement of civil action #16-008131-CC and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement and removal of New Business item #1: To consider approval of the purchase of three F-250 Pick-up trucks from Atchinson Ford Sales, Inc. in the amount of \$81,000.00.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as amended [Work Study Session Minutes of August 15, 2016, Board Meeting Minutes of August 16, 2016, Prepaid list of August 19, 2016, Prepaid list of August 26, 2016, Prepaid list of September 1, 2016, Voucher list of September 6, 2016, Approval of the revisions to the 2017 Holiday Schedule, Approval of the re-appointment of Chuck Covington to the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) with a term to expire August 12, 2020, Approval of the re-appointment of David Brownlee to the Environmental Commission with a term to expire October

1, 2019, Approval of the re-appointment of Anthony Gibson to the Environmental Commission, term expiring October 1, 2019, Approval of the attorney recommendation for the settlement of civil action #16-008131-CC and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement]. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

REPORTS: The June and July 2016 Budgetary Reports were received. Copies are available for review at the Clerk's Office 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township, MI 48111.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs announced Public Safety Day will be held in the Walgreen parking lot on Saturday September 17, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and thanked Walgreens for sponsoring the event.

NON AGENDA: Resident expressed concern regarding Township towing and impound vendors' fees and encouraged the Board to be vigilant in monitoring the fees, reminded residents to watch for children entering and exiting school busses, obey traffic speeds and laws, and thanked Clerk Wright for addressing his concern over the size of the American flag displayed at his polling location.

Supervisor Combs will present the results of the on-line survey recently completed during the next Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Wright moved, Miller seconded to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Linda Combs, Supervisor

Publish: September 15, 2016

Van Buren Township
Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 609 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Sept. 4:
0030 – noise complaint, Country Walk Blvd.
0035 – property damage accident, EB I-94/Hannan
0108 – robbery, Ecorse Rd.
0202 – breaking & entering, Shelley Dr.
0314 – private property accident, Industrial
0434 – disturbance, Rawsonville
0510 – agency assist, Textile
0512 – agency assist, S. I-94 Service Dr./Denton
1102 – malicious destruction of property, Pebblebrook Dr.
1304 – larceny, W. Archwood Dr.
1503 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1505 – shots fired, Hoeft Rd.
1539 – marine violation, Rawsonville DNR
1609 – disorderly conduct, Belleville BP
1825 – lake complaint, North Shore Dr.
2121 – breaking & entering, Haggerty Rd.
2128 – missing person, Meadows Cir.
2156 – narcotics crime, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Monday, Sept. 5:
0127 – agency assist, Carmell
0143 – noise complaint, Meadows Ln.
0524 – vehicle repossession, Oak Ln.
0839 – vehicle repossession, W. Archwood Dr.
1000 – larceny, Montague Ave.
1221 – harassment call, Meadows Circle
1314 – harassment call, Meadows Circle
1430 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1457 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd.
1457 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1523 – property damage accident, Belleville
1554 – harassment call, Parkwood Dr.
1627 – harassment call, Rawsonville Rd
1745 – breaking & entering, Salem Ct.
1839 – trespassing, Denton Rd.
1843 – lake complaint, Harbour Club dock
1857 – dumping complaint, Morton Taylor/Ecorse
1938 – malicious destruction of property, Westlake
2010 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2017 – larceny, Belleville
2226 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville
2252 – shots fired, Victoria St.
2336 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Huron River Dr.

Tuesday, Sept. 6:
0029 – assault & battery, E. Huron River Dr.
0352 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
0743 – property damage, Ecorse/Belleville Rd.
0814 – private property incident, Van Born Rd.
1545 – assault & battery, S. Service Dr.
1624 – breaking & entering, S. Bellridge Dr.
1641 – fraud, Belleville
1812 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1848 – family trouble, Truman
1939 – fraud, Rawsonville Rd.

Wednesday, Sept. 7:
0558 – assault & battery, Village Green Ln.
0744 – private property accident, Forestdale Dr.
0814 – disorderly conduct, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1139 – disorderly conduct, Oak Blvd.
1241 – private property incident, Van Born
1452 – fraud, Dunkin’ Doughnuts
1500 – missing person, Holly
1544 – agency assist, EB I-94/Belleville
1633 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / West Lake Cir.
1654 – suicide or attempt, Country Walk Park
1810 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Harbour Club
1903 – property damage accident, Cobblestone Creek Dr.
1908 – larceny, Rawsonville Rd.
1913 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
2217 – noise complaint, Arthur St./Van Buren St.

Wednesday, Sept. 7:
0317 – harassment call, Ormond Dr.
0833 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0919 – juvenile complaint, Haggerty Rd.
0931 – private property accident, Lighthouse Dr.
1134 – fraud, W. Archwood Dr.
1204 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler

1341 – larceny, Morton Taylor Rd.
1349 – missing person, Meadows Cir.
1449 – vehicle repossession, Tyler
1532 – shots fired, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1548 – disorderly conduct, Lakewood
1804 – disorderly conduct, Oak Blvd.
1823 – agency assist, Winding Pond Dr.
1950 – disorderly conduct, Bog Rd.
2029 – fraud, W. Huron River Dr.
2155 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2222 – harassment call, Denton Rd.

Friday, Sept. 9:
0959 – property damage accident, McBride Ave.
1022 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1044 – breaking & entering, N. Cumberland Dr.
1239 – ordinance violation, Hoeft Rd.
1356 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1358 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1441 – disorderly conduct, Cedar Woods
1508 – larceny from auto, Parkwood Dr.
1603 – abandoned auto, Industrial
1629 – property damage accident, Van Buren St.
1924 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.
1952 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
2113 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2142 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2219 – disorderly conduct, Fairbanks St.
2325 – suicide or attempt, Pinewood Ln.

Saturday, Sept. 10:
0120 – harassment call, Rawsonville Rd.
0333 – assault & battery, Colony Ln.
0759 – property damage accident, S. Ponderosa Trl.
0759 – missing person, Quirk Rd.
1142 – breaking & entering, Freedom Way
1542 – malicious destruction of property, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1711 – private property accident, Denton Rd.
1942 – mental, Quirk Rd.
2028 – assault & battery, Robson Rd
2335 – disturbance, Lohr Rd./Oak Blvd.
2353 – noise complaint, Westlake

Also on this week’s log are 214 traffic stops, 42 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police
Dispatch Log

Sunday, Sept. 4:
0138 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
1155 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
1354 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Astor Pl.
1511 – suspicious situation, Church St.
1640 – vehicle lockout, N. Biggs Ave.
1850 – vehicle lockout, Belle Villa Blvd. / Menlo Park Dr.
2206 – P.B.T. alcohol, Main St.
2242 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
2340 – assist fire dept., Benito’s

Monday, Sept. 5:
0107 – suspicious situation, Carmell St.
0124 – shots fired, Carmell St.
0144 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
0737 – parking complaint, S. Edgemont Ave.
1614 – disturbance, Carmell St.
2050 – domestic assault, Biggs Ave.

Tuesday, Sept. 6:
0253 – assist fire dept., Wexford Ave.
0659 – welfare check, High/Johnny’s
0915 – assist fire dept., Main St.
0928 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1144 – assist fire dept., Wexford Ave.
1216 – family trouble, Sumpter Rd.
1235 – property damage accident, W. Columbia
1807 – other miscellaneous complaint, Astor Pl.
2321 – property check, W. Columbia Ave.

Wednesday, Sept. 7:
0454 – traffic complaint, Main St.
0721 – mental, High St./Main St.
0816 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.
1243 – civil matter, Edgemont Elementary
1320 – welfare check, Sumpter Rd.
1734 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr.

Thursday, Sept. 8:
0742 – minor in possession, W. Columbia Ave.
0922 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1037 – miscellaneous complaint, Henry St.

1451 – welfare check, N. Liberty St.
1529 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1641 – suspicious situation, Church St. / W. Columbia Ave.
2124 – harassment call, Main St.
2227 – intrusion alarm, W. Davis St.

Friday, Sept. 9:
0021 – motorist assist, Main St./W. Columbia
0841 – disorderly conduct, Owen St.
1521 – warrant arrest, Tyler
1549 – fight, Church St./Second St.
1645 – disorderly conduct, S. Industrial Park Dr.
1744 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1825 – suspicious situation, Sumpter Rd.
2217 – assist citizen, Village Park

Saturday, Sept. 10:
0938 – suspicious situation, Savage/tracks
1248 – narcotics crime, Main St.
1441 – miscellaneous complaint, Carmell St.
1627 – follow-up, Carmell St.
1635 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1738 – assist fire dept., Biggs Ave.
1937 – assist fire dept., Victory Park
2039 – all other traffic, Huron River/Haggerty
2309 – noise complaint, Henry St.

Also on this week’s log are 37 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township
Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Sept. 4:
0106 – noise complaint, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
0214 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Bemis / Savage
0223 – noise complaint, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
0338 – suspicious vehicle, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
0449 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz / Sumpter
1147 – threats complaint, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1416 – threats complaint, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1513 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1624 – animal complaint, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1717 – larceny, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1736 – citizen assist, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2001 – neighbor dispute, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2011 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Bemis

Monday, Sept. 5:
1247 – disorderly person, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1325 – juvenile complaint, Elwell/Arkona
1438 – 911 hang up, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
1527 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1641 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1809 – neighbor dispute, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1848 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1955 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2122 – disorderly person, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
2138 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
2346 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.

Tuesday, Sept. 6:
0809 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0845 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0851 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0932 – civil dispute, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0948 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1344 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1412 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1454 – civil dispute, 5100 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1534 – suspicious incident, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1710 – breaking & entering, 43000 bl. Clay Rd.
1727 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
1807 – reckless driver, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
1915 – subpoena service, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2022 – alarm, 18000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2023 – subpoena service, 41000 bl. Wear Rd.
2315 – civil dispute, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

Wednesday, Sept. 7:
0428 – suspicious vehicle, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1018 – 911 hang up, 8900 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1031 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1732 – harassment complaint, 39000 bl. Judd Rd.
1823 – family trouble, Pecan
2317 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Oakville Waltz

Thursday, Sept. 8:
0006 – suspicious incident, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0656 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Bemis
0817 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
0843 – warrant arrest pick up, Sumpter/Oakville Waltz
1057 – neighbor dispute, 11000 bl. Rawsonville

1116 – civil dispute, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1138 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1159 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
1335 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1350 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1431 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1518 – civil dispute, Carriage Ln.
1520 – civil dispute, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1637 – animal complaint, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.
1717 – threats complaint, Oregon
1823 – 911 hang up, 20000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Friday, Sept. 9:
0259 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0712 – assist other agency, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
0952 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1104 – 911 hang up, Nevada
1132 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1208 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1329 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1523 – larceny, Rustic Ln.
1556 – disorderly person, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1949 – reckless driver, Sumpter/Bemis
2137 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Carleton West
2158 – suspicious incident, Sumpter/Bemis
2233 – alarm, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
2311 – larceny, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Saturday, Sept. 10:
0049 – noise complaint, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
0104 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
0840 – traffic hazard, Dunn/Martinsville
1228 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1750 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
1809 – reckless driver, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
2037 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
2311 – suspicious person, Martinsville/Willis

Also on this week’s log are 16 follow-up investigations, 27 miscellaneous details, 101 patrol checks, and 25 traffic stops.

Sumpter planners to
consider FMAR project,
Po site plan for Willis

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Sept. 8 meeting of the Sumpter Township Planning Commission could not be held because there was no quorum.

On the agenda was to be continued discussion of the Medical Marijuana Zoning Ordinance amendments and a proposed Portable Storage Unit Zoning Ordinance.

The next meeting of the planning commission is at 7 p.m. Oct. 13. Expected to be on that agenda, besides the discussions delayed from Sept. 8, are the site plan review for Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue kennel expansion on Arkona Road and the site plan review of Nelson Po’s 40 acres cleared of trees on Willis Road for a marijuana growing business.

Present at the Sept. 8 meeting were Commissioners Virginia Belinski, Jay Bardell, and Mary Sherwood. Absent were Commissioners Tyrone Borden, Jim Clark, Joy Cichewicz, Jane Stalmack, Matthew Oddy, and Richard Pokerwinski.

Kiwanis Club to charter
Belleville club on Oct. 25

It’s not too late to become a charter member of the Belleville Kiwanis Club. The charter ceremony is planned to take place in Belleville on Oct. 25 with a time and place to be announced.

For more information on joining the club, call Linda Lawther at (734) 320-5810.

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- pottery • laser-cut art • paintings • hand-dyed nuno felted scarves & shawls •
- sandcasted garden art • photography • hand-sewn children's hats • lampwork beads & jewelry •

For more information call Debbie Juriga 395-8613. In case of rain, the event will be rescheduled.

Superintendent's Corner

By Pete Kudlak
Superintendent,
Van Buren Public Schools



Mrs. Oztman asked me if I was interested in doing a Superintendent's Column on a regular basis. I am honored and humbled by this request. This column will be an every other week feature that shares what is happening in Van Buren Public Schools, the state of education in Michigan, and just my thoughts on teaching and learning.

I guess I should start with a little background on me so you know where and how my thoughts were formed. I grew up in Harbor Beach, MI. If you could see me now, I am pointing to the thumb on my hand. Harbor Beach is a very small community about 60 miles north of Port Huron. Hard work, honesty, and treating others with respect and compassion defined each of us. As the son of an alcoholic, I was picked up and put back together by many community members. It was a wonderful place to have your beliefs shaped and your passion for human capacity formed.

My calling for education did not come right away. After many chemistry credits, I decided to get a degree in psychology. I worked through college (and as a second job while teaching) at a group home for the mentally ill. This amazing population is misunderstood, feared, and ignored in our society. It is as easy to take our mental

health for granted as it is to judge others in their times of struggle.

I guess all this background leads up to the word perspective. We all have developed our "lenses" through which we view life. Our backgrounds and experiences create our various lenses that we use. Without these lenses, we would struggle in the daily situations that life presents us. They are critical.

Unfortunately, we often lose sight that these lenses are not real. They are just what our experiences have created over time. Other people, with other experiences, have developed completely different lenses. This is a gift. It is fascinating to me to see how various people have totally different perspectives on the same situation. Too often, we see our perspective as "right" and others as "wrong." This is so limiting and even harmful to reaching new heights or solving difficult problems.

Van Buren Public Schools is full of various lenses from people with very diverse backgrounds. Students here have the opportunity to develop their own perspective using the wide array of experiences of those around them. The possibilities are endless. I am excited to be a part of this and to continue to foster those interactions among the community.

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26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$35,000

25817 SUMPTER RD. 97 ACRES \$20,000
26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000
45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT \$25,000
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500
ELWELL ACROSS FRM 29300 10AS \$59,500

42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS \$30,000 TO \$40,000
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES \$30,000
VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES \$450,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$25,000
BOHN NEAR DUNN 5 ACRES \$29,000

BELLEVILLE
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